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WASHINGTON MEETINGS.

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During the past year six meetings have been held by the Washington members of the American Statistical Association. The papers submitted have been as follows :—

December 31, 1896.—Opening address by President Francis A. Walker. (Printed in March Number.) “Plan for a Permanent Census Service,” by Col. Carroll D. Wright.

January 25, 1897.—“Some Aspects of Our Foreign Trade,” by Mr. Worthington C. Ford.

February 22, 1897.—Eulogies of the late Francis A. Walker, President of the Association. Addresses by Prof. Henry Gannett and Mr. Victor H. Olmsted.

March 22, 1897.—“Some Characteristics of Farm and Home Proprietors,” by Mr. George K. Holmes.

April 26, 1897.—“Statistical Illustrations,” by Prof. Henry Gannett.

May 27, 1897.—“Location of Life Insurance Policy-holders in the United States,” by Mr. Henry Farquhar ; “Some Considerations in Gathering Forestry Statistics,” by Prof. B. E. Fernow.

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MUNICIPAL STATISTICAL OFFICES.

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Dr. Edward M. Hartwell, recently appointed Secretary of the Department of Statistics of Boston, in the summer of 1896 visited the principal municipal statistical offices of Europe, and has submitted his investigations in a special report to the Mayor (Boston City Document, No. 94, 1897). His conclusions are as follows :—

Municipal statistics are more comprehensive, various, and scientifically presented on the continent of Europe than is the case in Great Britain or the United States. The continental municipal statistical offices present certain characteristics, as a class, that are significant and noteworthy. (1) They are apparently independent and self-contained ; (2) they are more closely connected with the executive and administrative departments of the city government than with any other ; (3) they are organized as permanent scientific bureaus, under the responsible charge of highly trained specialists, who,